

Submitter: Kristin Rasmussen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Measure: SB1534

Chair Golden and members of the Committee,

I am writing in opposition to SB1534 as currently drafted. Oregon's forests and the wood building materials they generate are already part of the solution to climate change. SB 1534 does not adequately address the current and future benefits of building with wood products. Local policies that restrict or delay harvests in Oregon will only increase harvests in other regions. Our population is growing and demand for housing is far exceeding supply. To meaningfully contribute to the fight against climate change, we should be prioritizing policies that facilitate the use of sustainably managed forests and advanced wood building products to hasten the transition away from carbon intensive building products like steel and concrete in our urban environments. Please revisit this legislation after forest products professionals have been consulted and more thought has been given to the important role sustainable harvests and locally-produced wood products play in the fight against climate change.

Thank you.